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Karen B. Tripp, Attorney 713-658-9410

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MAY 10 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Jeff Miller, et al.

Serial No.: 10/656,684

Filed: September 5, 2003

Title: "Drilling Fluid and
Method for Enhanced Suspension"

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 1712

Examiner: TUCKER, PHILIP C.

Atty. Docket No.: HALB:045

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
FAX NUMBER: 571 273 8300

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and
Trademark Office on the date indicated below:

Karen B. Tripp

KAREN TRIPP

MAY 10, 2006
DATE

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 TO
NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION, MAILED NOVEMBER 10, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on November 10, 2005, please amend the referenced application as follows:

- **Amendments to the Specification** are reflected in marked-up paragraph [0001] on page 3 of this paper;
- **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper;
- **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper; and
- **Summary** begins on page 17 of this paper.

An extension of time is believed needed for this response and such extension is requested. The Commissioner is requested and authorized to charge the fee to the undersigned's credit (or debit) card. A credit card charge authorization form is attached.

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Application Serial No. 10/656,684
Art Unit 1712 (Attorney Dkt: HALB:045)

Similarly, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee for the amendment to the claims included with this response, and the fee for the additional submission of documents under form PTO-1449 which will be submitted later under separate cover, as well as any other fees that may be due for this application (except the issue fee), to said credit (or debit) card. If any such charges(s) cannot be completed, the Commissioner is authorized to charge undersigned's deposit account, 50-0807.